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Rhodesian guerrillas only recognise united ANC

DAR ES SALAAM, April 17 (AFP). — Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) guerrillas have refused to recognise either of the rival African National Council (ANC) political factions, Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere said here today.

He told a visiting delegation from the United Nations Decolonisation Committee that they would only recognise a united ANC leadership.

President Nyerere said the guerrillas had taken the battle-field because there was no alternative. They had Tanzania's full support, he added.

Mubarak flies to Peking

CAIRO, April 17 (R). — Egyptian Vice-President Husni Mubarak left here tonight for Peking on a week long visit to discuss expanding military, political and economic relations between the two countries.

Mr. Mubarak's talks with Chinese officials will focus on prospects of military cooperation, observers here said.

China provided Egypt with engines for MIG-21 fighters and other spare parts for its Soviet-made equipment free of charge.

Bank flareup follows Ramallah assassination; 1-year-old boy killed

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank, April 17, (Agencies). — A six year old boy died and several Arabs were reported wounded by gunfire as Israeli troops stepped in to break up a demonstration by several hundred residents of Ramallah and nearby villages Saturday. The demonstrators were protesting the assassination of a Palestinian nationalist leader and the wounding of another.

They were considered sympathisers of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.).

The arrested man, Abdel Nur Janho, who was defeated in last Monday's election, has the reputation of being on good terms with Israeli authorities.

Today's incident heightened tension before a mass march of ultra-nationalist Israelis through the West Bank tomorrow. An estimated 20,000 young members of the Gush Emunim (faith-movement) and other religious groups were due to set off on the 32-kilometre two-day march in the early morning, camping overnight in the hills between Ramallah and the Jordan Valley.

The march is to support their demands for the government to allow further Israeli settlements in prohibited areas on the West Bank. Israeli troops will keep the marchers in order and they have promised to use force if necessary.

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RAVAGES OF WAR. — The burnt, looted Avenue des Français in Beirut's nightlife district retains little of its former looks. A lone leftist gunman is seen Saturday walking up the Avenue towards the Hilton Hotel, a one-time Phalangist stronghold and the scene of recent bitter warfare. An aged cripple (right) looks on. (AP wirephoto).

Turkey, Greece make friendly gestures, amid hopes of new relations

ANKARA, Apr. 17 (Agencies). — Turkey tonight welcomed an offer by Greek Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis to settle Greek-Turkish differences by peaceful means.

Turkey sincerely wanted to find peaceful solutions quickly to problems between the two countries, through negotiations and in a way which would serve the interests of both, Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel said in a broadcast speech.

An authoritative source said a more explicit Turkish reply to Mr. Karamanlis would be given when official Greek proposals had been received.

Mr. Demirel said Turkey was ready for "all efforts worthy of two allies to eliminate the atmosphere of mistrust."

Turkey had no aggressive intentions towards Greece, and had not engaged in an arms race with Greece, Mr. Demirel said.

In Athens Greek Premier Constantine Karamanlis had today offered to sign a non-aggression pact with Turkey and "solve Greek-Turkish differences by peaceful means."

He also said that Greece was prepared to sign an agreement with Turkey, ending the arms race which he described as "detrimental" to both peoples.

Mr. Karamanlis made his suggestions during a speech to the Greek parliament in which he defended the recently signed agreement with the United States on the maintenance of the four U.S. military bases in Greece.

He described the agreement as a "national success" and appealed to the "coolness and realism" of the Greek people.

He emphasised the United States' political and moral commitment to maintain peace in the Aegean, and frequently mentioned the United States' proposal to exert its influence to bring about a just solution to the Cypriot problem.

He rejected non-alignment urged by the Greek opposition left as a political course for Greece to follow, arguing that it was "unthinkable for Greece which politically belongs to the West."

"Non-alignment would be a dangerous experience," he added.

In a related development the Greek centrist and left-wing opposition today strongly criticised the new outline agreement for the maintenance of four American bases in Greece, and called for the withdrawal of Greece from NATO.

Permitting election of new president Franjeh promulgates constitutional amendment

BEIRUT, Apr. 17 (Agencies). — President Suleiman Franjeh today lifted an obstacle to ending the year-old Lebanese civil war when he acted to permit the election of a replacement for himself.

He promulgated a constitutional amendment authorising the immediate election of a new president, although Mr. Franjeh's term was not due to expire until September.

The election and Mr. Franjeh's resignation are the main conditions set by leftist forces for extending the present, imperfectly-observed truce.

The amendment was voted unanimously by 89 members of parliament on April 12.

Hope for peace was also spurred by a tentative agreement reached yesterday by Syria and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who has been mediating between Lebanese leftists and Syria.

The agreement called for a complete halt in hostilities within 48 hours, and for truce supervision pending election of a new president by a committee representing the hostile Lebanese factions, Syria and the Palestinians.

There were unconfirmed reports the agreement included secret clauses concerning the election.

A statement issued by leftist parties after a meeting tonight attended by commando leaders and chaired by Mr. Jumblatt praised yesterday's agreement and reaffirmed the leftwingers' adherence to the current ceasefire.

It also announced adherence to the unity of Lebanon against all designs to internationalise the Lebanese problem and partition the country.

The statement opposed "attempts to involve Arab military forces in Lebanon," but said the leftists would "welcome another Syrian initiative after the election of a new president and the formation of a new government."

After the meeting, Mr. Jumblatt said the leftwing forces would not remain with folded hands in the face of alleged attacks by rightwingers whom he accused of having received new shipments of arms and ammunition.

The rightwing Phalange Party has announced it was in favour of the agreement but Phalangist allies in the National Liberal Party of Interior Minister Camille Chamoun have deferred making a decision.

Phalangist leader Pierre Gemayel said he favoured any action supporting the "Syrian initiative aimed at saving the country from its crisis."

Mr. Gemayel said he hoped the Arab League would support the agreement reached in Damascus and that member nations of the League would make Lebanon "a meeting place for a general Arab reconciliation."

Without waiting for ratification, Syria made a good-will gesture by starting to withdraw its troops, which moved into central Lebanon early this month.

Only sporadic explosions were heard in this capital today but snipers continued to fire along the front splitting Beirut in two.

At least 51 people were reported killed here yesterday, and more than 100 died the day before when both sides hammered at each other with artillery, mortars and heavy machine guns.

Undeterred by the diminishing shooting, Elias Sarkis, one of the 17 reported candidates to succeed Mr. Franjeh, has begun contacting heads of parliamentary factions to seek their support. He is the Governor of the National Bank, a Maronite Christian like Mr. Franjeh, and has the backing of Premier Rashid Karami.

U.S. envoy Dean Brown conferred yesterday with Mr. Karami and former Premiers Saeb Salam and Abdullah Yafi.

Today, Mr. Brown talked with Foreign Minister Philippe Takla and French Ambassador Hubert Argod.

A Lebanese leftist source said only symbolic Syrian units would remain, and be confined to the border area.



A MAN WITH A PLAN. — Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation is greeted by Lebanese Leftist Leader Kamal Jumblatt (left) in Beirut, Friday. Mr. Arafat arrived from Damascus brought with him a Syrian-Palestinian peace plan to end the one year old Lebanese civil strife. (AP wirephoto).

Jordan's U.N. envoy: Arabs have focused world attention on Israel's occupation policy

It was reported in a book in the United Nations, Ambassador Sherif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, was interviewed in New York this week by Jordan Times correspondent Lina Gress.

However, Ambassador Sharaf's major statement on the general question contained several positive aspects and was constructive in spirit.

He was satisfied that the U.S. government stated clearly that it opposed the establishment by Israel of settlements in the occupied areas, and all measures undertaken by Israel to change the character and status of occupied Jerusalem.

This reflects the general evolution in the international outlook towards Arab rights and the requirements of a just settlement.

Q. What is the effect of the situation in Lebanon on Arab efforts in the U.N., and on the international level regarding the Palestinian question and the Israeli occupation?

A. The effect of the tragic Lebanese events is seriously damaging. It is a situation where enormous Arab human, emotional, moral and physical resources are being wasted.

It is also a very delicate situation and threatens to change into a much wider conflict.

It has hurt the Arabs' image in the world and it has given ammunition to the opponents of the Arabs. When King Hussein was in the U.S., one of the main concerns was to explain the situation objectively and to limit the damage.

I hope that His Majesty's efforts in the area and abroad will be successful and that peace and brotherhood and stability will be restored to Lebanon so that Lebanon can contribute to the concerned Arab efforts and the Arab cause.

Q. What is the effect of the Israeli lobby on the U.N.?

A. Israel is very active in the U.N. and has been active since it joined the U.N. in 1949.

But during the last few years, in fact, since the conflict of 1967 and the resulting occupation, Israel has lost decisively in its support within the U.N., and has become completely isolated as far as the Third World is concerned. Naturally, the Third World countries constitute the vast majority of the U.N. In Europe too, Israel has lost support.

[Continued on page 6]

Pope Paul leads Easter celebrations in Rome

ROME, April 18 (R). — Pope Paul VI leads millions of Roman Catholics throughout the world tonight in celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Amid the splendour of Saint Peter's Basilica, the 78-year-old pontiff will light the sacred Paschal candle, symbol of Christ's triumph over death.

Christian unity and love are the main themes for this year's Easter celebrations, highlighted tomorrow by Pope Paul's reading of the traditional Easter message — usually dedicated to world peace.

Tens of thousands of foreign tourists and pilgrims took over the capital today as Romans poured out by car and train to spend the long Easter weekend in the country or by the sea.

The tourists were lured not only by warm spring sunshine, but also by a much devalued Italian Lira.

Last night Pope Paul carried a light wooden cross up the Palatine Hill from the ancient Colosseum, scene of early Christian martyrdom, in a re-enactment of Christ's walk to his crucifixion.

Despite his age, arthritis and the strains of a heavy Easter schedule, Pope Paul looked well as he led the procession over its final four stages.

Afterwards he addressed a huge crowd watching the solemn ceremony of the significance of the crucifixion.

In contrast to previous years in which he included political and social problems in his speech, the Pope last night spoke solely on religion.



PONTIFICAL CEREMONY. — Pope Paul VI is seen carrying a wooden cross in front of the Colosseum (unshown) in Rome during the Good Friday ceremony. The Pontiff is escorted by a torchbearer and the director of Pontifical ceremonies. (AP wirephoto).

Spanish leftists defy ban on Basque rally

PAMPLONA, Spain, April 17 (R). — Police began to set up road blocks today in the northern Basque town of Pamplona today to forestall a planned leftist rally which could bring fresh violence to the troubled Basque country.

King Juan Carlos interrupted his Easter holidays on the Mediterranean island of Majorca and summoned Prime Minister Carlos Arias Navarro to Marivent Palace, his summer residence, to discuss political initiatives by the government.

The rally in Pamplona, a militant Basque land town which staged large-scale anti-government strikes and demonstrations last month, has been banned by the civil governor and called off by its main organisers, the Basque government-in-exile and the Basque Nationalist Party which fear it could lead to violence.

But extremists, grouped in the Trotskyite Revolutionary Workers' Organisation, the guerrilla group ETA and the Marxist party, which has strong roots in Pamplona, have said they will go ahead with the rally to demand political liberties and an amnesty for political prisoners.

They condemned its original organisers as collaborationists with the Madrid government and turncoats in the struggle for Basque home rule.

Senor Arias told newsmen after his meeting with the king last night that he would address the nation on television before the end of April to outline the government's programme.

The premier is expected to announce a speeded-up timetable of reforms to meet pressure from a recently formed opposition alliance of Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats and to regain the political initiative for the government.

Reformist ministers in the cabinet want a referendum to endorse the government's reform programme to be brought forward from next autumn to June and general elections, originally planned for next year, to take place after the summer.

Senor Arias also said his policy speech would review the first five months of the monarchy — a period that has been marked by mounting social and political unrest and by outbreaks of violence in the Basque country.

Informed sources in Pamplona said the para-military civil guard police force had begun to throw up a cordon around approaches to the town and were turning back non-residents trying to reach it.

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Cosmetics for men

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Positive signs

The sudden haze of optimism that has enveloped Lebanon during the past twenty-four hours is good news indeed, and there are signs this time that everyone can expect a more serious and more sustained drive to bring the fighting to an end for good, instead of just for a few days, and to start working out those political and social structures of reform that are still the essential but ephemeral lynchpin to an enduring peace in Lebanon.

It is important that both sides — symbolised in the public's eye by leftist leader Kamal Junblatt and rightist leader Pierre Gemayel — have welcomed the agreement worked out in Damascus Thursday between President Assad of Syria and Yasser Arafat of the PLO.

The simultaneous news that Syrian troops have started pulling back from positions well inside Lebanon, and that the joint Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian military committee will be revived to supervise and enforce the ceasefire in Lebanon, is another sign of progress. This is further bolstered by the signing by President Franjeh of the constitutional amendment that will clear the way for the selection by parliament of a new president. The timing of President Franjeh's move is significant in itself, as he could have delayed signing for weeks, and thereby kept the political atmosphere confused more than it already is.

There are no guarantees, of course, that anything approaching sanity will prevail in Lebanon for very long, but these several events taking place one on top of the other are collectively a fresh sign that the maniacal streak in the country may have run itself out. This remains to be seen.

It is clear, however, that the continued military battles in Lebanon are no good to anybody in the long run. Whether the fighting stops for good is probably not totally in the hands of the Lebanese people themselves; but the country's political and tribal leaders can do a lot to make sure that efforts to stir up the innate Lebanese penchant for mercurialness would not automatically spark another round of bloodier and bloodier warfare.

It is also gratifying that the impetus for this latest ray of hope has come from within the circle of concerned Arab parties, and has been quickly welcomed by the rest of the involved groups.

The most optimistic sign that has emerged from the Assad-Arafat programme is the strong show of determination to bring back some super-factional authority that would deter and check unilateral attempts to restart the fighting once again. This may create the atmosphere of calm and confidence that is also a crucial element in setting the country back on the path of rationality. It would be ultimately ineffective for the nation to try and resurrect itself from its own rubble with such unfortunate public demonstrations of insecurity and lawlessness as surrounded the recent meeting of parliament to amend the constitution. That meeting in part showed the Lebanese people's will to hold on to the precious threads of their constitutional and republican traditions, but it was a more glaring show of the anarchy that continues to reign in Lebanon. If this can be replaced by some degree of public authority and a show of security, then the daily mechanics of political and commercial life can resume, and it is here that the people of Lebanon will have the opportunity to show — now more than ever — the ultimate positive qualities of their historic resilience.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Jordan press commentaries Saturday were devoted to King Hussein's three-week trip to the United States, Canada and Britain. The King and Queen Ayla returned home from this trip Friday. The Royal couple had earlier visited the Philippines, Japan and Australia.

Al Rai says editorially the Royal visits this time were more significant than any other previous tours because the King "moved with him the Arab cause with all its details and history." It says everybody who has seen the King or read about his tour would have realised the problem of the Israeli occupation of Sinai, the Golan, Jerusalem and all the rest of Palestine. King Hussein has stressed that only right and a just peace will prevail.

Al Dustour views the return of the King from his tour as heralding a clarification of Jordan's outlook and determining the landmarks of the coming stage. It is obvious, the paper adds, that our march is approaching a new bout involving the re-inforcement of our defensive capabilities and the reaffirmation of our right to protect our soil and our sky without any conditions. The outcome of the tour has proved the soundness of Jordan's point of view on the necessity for an all-out resolution of the crisis, particularly after Dr. Kissinger's declaration that the step-by-step policy has come to a standstill. The paper calls the Arabs to review their future strategy with full and real coordination among themselves.

Al Shaab says that, in addition to winning support for the Arab cause, King Hussein's visit has opened new vistas for economic cooperation in Jordan's current development plan with most of the countries he visited.

Commenting on the recent municipal elections in the occupied West Bank Al Ahram of Cairo points out that the nationalists and the pro-Palestine Liberation

Organisation candidates emerged victorious, thus blocking the Israeli strategy to make the election an embryo of a Palestinian authority that would supersede the PLO.

"Israel can no more claim that the PLO is a stooge of this or that Arab country, nor that the people of Palestine have other elected bodies to compete with the PLO as the sole representative of all the Palestinian people," the Egyptian paper says.

The Syrian newspapers Saturday observed the 30th anniversary of the withdrawal of the French forces from Syria. They declared: "April 17 should prompt us to look to the future with more confidence in victory and in achieving our people's aspiration for unity, freedom and socialism."

Cooperatives Organisation finances projects

AMMAN. — The Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation will extend technical and financial support to any agricultural project to be implemented by the Cooperatives Societies on condition of economic feasibility and the availability of the necessary qualified manpower, the Director General of the Cooperatives Organisation Marwan Dudin, said Saturday. Mr. Dudin was speaking at the opening of a training seminar for the members of the administrative committees of the Cooperatives Societies in the Amman and Balqa districts.

Loans, he added, will be granted to cooperatives at a minimal interest rate to encourage the development of agricultural activities and raise the standard of living of agricultural workers.

He also stressed that in the long run, the cooperatives societies should become self supporting and finance their own projects.



'Hold her steady for the high tide, now, Capt. Callaghan.'

FAO to finance local projects

AMMAN. — The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has agreed to finance (\$300,000) the establishment of centres for the cooperative societies throughout Jordan, said the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Said Ghazzawi, on his return here Saturday after having attended the FAO Food Security Committee meeting held at FAO headquarters in Rome last week.

The project is one of 3 agricultural projects which FAO has been requested to finance. The other two, still under study, are the project to develop agriculture in lands irrigated by rainfall and that of doubling wheat production.

On the discussion of the Food Security Committee, he said that the conferees had assessed world grain reserves and discussed measures to keep such reserves on a continuous basis to avoid any food shortages.

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Delegation on Jerusalem returns from Pakistan

AMMAN. — A Jordanian delegation headed by Chief Justice Sheikh Abdullah Ghosheh, returned here Saturday after handing messages on the situation in Jerusalem from King Hussein to the Pakistani President and the Shah of Iran.

A member of the delegation said that Chief Justice Sheikh Abdullah Ghosheh was taken ill in Teheran and has remained there for treatment.

Both countries expressed their willingness to participate in any move to counter the Judaisation of Jerusalem, he said.

The delegation, he added, held meetings with various groups and officials in the two countries to explain the far reaching effects

Arab institution for space communications approved

AMMAN. — The Minister of Communications, Dr. Mohammed Al Zaben has stated that the Third Arab Ministers of Communications Conference, held in Cairo April 12-15, has approved the agreement for the establishment of a pan-Arab institution for space communications.

Dr. Al Zaben, who led the Jordanian delegation to the meeting said on his return to Amman Friday that the agreement, which was initiated by the member countries ministers, will come into force from the date of deposition of the ratification documents at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo.

He said the Institution capital will be one hundred million dollars, distributed at the rate of \$100,000 dollars per share.

Educational relations with China reviewed

AMMAN. — Jordan and Nationalist China started talks here Saturday to develop educational relations between them.

Discussions centered on the implementation of the cultural agreement concluded between the two countries in 1962 and in particular the protocol relevant to the exchange of professors, sports teams and scholarships.

Mr. Zouqan Hindawi, the Minister of Education, headed the Jordanian side to the talks, while Dr. Siang Bin Si, his Chinese counterpart, headed the Chinese side.

The two parties also reviewed the systems of education in the two countries.

Accompanied by Mr. Hindawi, the Chinese delegation later visited several educational institutions and the ruins of Jerash.



Pakistani President Chaudary Fazal Alahi (centre) is presenting the official Jordanian delegation to Islamabad, entrusting royal messages to Arab and Islamic heads of state desecration and Judaisation of Islamic holy places. The delegation returned to Amman Friday night.

and dangers to the Arab and Islamic Worlds which the Judaisation of Jerusalem may carry.

The object of the visit, he concluded, is to draw a unified strong policy vis-a-vis the Islamic Foreign Ministry in Istanbul on N



RECEIVING HONOURARY DIPLOMAS. — Empress F of Iran (centre) and Princess Fatmeh Pahlavi (right) hold of Citizens of Honour of the winter resort of Val d'Isere, France. They received the diplomas from the mayor (left) at a ceremony in the city hall Friday. (AP wirephoto)

JD3m loan extended for rural development

AMMAN. — The Director General of the Municipal and Rural Loans Fund, Mr. Hajem Al Tel, has announced that within the framework of the plan for over-all development of the country, the fund has decided to grant municipalities the sum of JD3 million to finance electric, street and construction projects.

Congolese Premier visits Egypt

CAIRO, April 17 (AFP). — Congolese Prime Minister Louis Sylvain Goma signed agreements covering trade and cultural cooperation with his Egyptian counterpart Mamdouh Salem here today.

Mr. Goma arrived here four days ago on an official visit. He is scheduled to fly on to Riyadh (Saudi Arabia).

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NATIONAL BRIEFS

● AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a congratulatory cable to Syrian President Hafez Assad on the occasion of Evacuation Day.

● AMMAN. — The Ministry of Industry approved Saturday the establishment of 12 new industries with a total capital of JD886,000. The 12 industries will employ 295 workers.

● AMMAN. — At the invitation of the Arab Economic Unity Council, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce leaves here for Cairo Sunday morning to give a lecture on the Arab Common Market and Arab economic policies.

● AMMAN. — The Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ghaleb Barakat received Saturday morning the Danish Ambassador to Jordan.

● AMMAN. — The Municipal and Rural Credit Fund Saturday approved a JD3,419 loan to the Municipality of Kwasme and Jouaida to complete construction of the village's school.

● AMMAN. — The authorities concerned are studying a project to set up a company with a capital of J.D. three million to develop the animal resources of the country, by means of increasing the production of milk, eggs and meat. The public and private sectors are to pay for the capital.

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Thousands of enthusiastic kiddies flock to Amman's Book Fair

By Heather Crawford
Fighting one's way through the ranks of excited children who, since Friday, have been launching a daily invasion on the Children's Book Fair at the King Hussein Club, 1st Circle, Jabal Amman can be a hazardous though rewarding experience.

The excitement is understandable, as rarely has such a comprehensive collection of English and Arabic children's books been gathered together under one roof. We parents must be content merely to delve into our pockets to produce the necessary cash for the required purchases.

As the books are much cheaper than it is possible to buy them in the bookshops here, it is money well spent. All age groups and tastes are catered for; the selections range from the well-loved Richard Scarry, Dr. Seuss and Beatrix Potter series to informative volumes on history, science and hobbies. Each child will find something to tempt his appetite.

If it isn't enough to spend a few happy hours browsing amongst the colourful displays, there is a complete programme (from 10am-12am and 4:00pm-6pm) of films in English, Arabic and French, story — telling and a play *Off the Shelf* when different children talk about themselves and the books they enjoy. The Book exhibition and accompanying programme run until Wednesday 21st April. So if you haven't already paid it a visit, do so, it's not to be missed.

The Friends of the Children's Theatre Club of Amman has sponsored the exhibition. By promoting books on this scale it aims to develop a love of books in children at an early age — an attribute which will stand one in good stead throughout life.

This Society is just one year old, having been founded in 1975. The instigator of the Children's Theatre in Jordan was Malatjalian, who specialised in children's drama in the USA and England. She put on her first play here in 1972; the reaction was so encouraging that she then conceived the idea of establishing a Jordanian theatre.

"I see this as a base for a better adult theatre as there is no real theatrical tradition in Jordan. Beginning with the children we can discover talent for acting and writing at an early age and develop this for the future."

Mrs. Hind Nasser is president of the Club and was behind its eventual inauguration in 1975. It is now run by a committee of nine with twenty other active members. At the end of this month, they hope to move into temporary accommodations in two prefabs at the 5th Circle, given to them by the army. The land has been donated by the Municipality of Amman. Two vehicles have also been generously donated.

It is planned to take the plays and books to children in the towns and villages outside Amman. The group will concentrate on creative dramatics, emphasising child participation in all aspects of the fine arts — drama, music and painting. Facilities for the development of hobbies, games, film shows, story — telling and a library are all planned by this energetic and enthusiastic group.

Fund-raising activities have so far included a very successful flower show held by Mrs. Nasser and plays which have been performed on stage, radio and TV. Many of the cultural centres and local societies in Amman have encouraged the Club, staged their plays and donated such necessities as sound equipment and lighting. There is also close co-operation with UNICEF. Schools, of course, form the backbone of the whole thing.

In the future, the group intends to build a Children's Cultural Centre to encompass all these activities. As the land they have been given extends to ten dunums, a park with a traffic system, a playground and a pet zoo will be created around the Centre. For a project of this size, finance is the main stumbling block and it is hoped that local and outside agencies will be generous in their contributions to sponsor a centre so vital to the welfare and development of the children of the area.

A more immediate plan is to hold an international film festival for children showing suitable films in a wide range of languages.

Promotion of the Book Fair is but one example of the Friends of the Children's Theatre Club's genuine interest in the needs of children. Surely this is an organisation that deserves support from all sections of the community. To see the lively enthusiasm and enjoyment of the children already participating is sufficient reward for all those willing to fill their leisure-time with such worthwhile pursuits.

Those interested in joining the Friends of the Children's Theatre Club — membership is open to everyone — send a subscription of JD½ (children) or JD3 (adults) along with two photos to P.O. Box 3012. Information of the organisation's many activities will be forwarded along with membership.



Kenya expels Tanzanians, Ugandans

NAIROBI, April 17 (AFP). — Kenya has given Tanzanian and Ugandan nationals with the East African Community's General Fund Services a month's salary and travelling expenses and told them they must be out of the country by next Tuesday.

The order, which does not affect workers in the big jointly-run corporations — such as East African Airways and Railways — was served last Monday, community sources said.

Tanzania announced on Thursday that it would expel all Kenyans working there in retaliation, and a senior official at EAC headquarters at Arusha, Tanzania, said that all EAC workers in the General Fund Services would in future work in their own countries.

The General Fund Service employ about 15,000 people in Kenya, most of them office staff including messengers, typists, secretaries, accounts, clerks and security officers. Some high-ranking executives are also said to be affected by the expulsion order.

Among the major community organisations affected by Kenya's action are the Civil Aviation Directorate, the East African Customs and Exercise Department and what are described as research organisations.

A notice sent out by the Kenya regional Director of one community department said Tanzanian

and Ugandan nationals must leave for home "with immediate effect" but EAC officials in Nairobi said the non-Kenyans had until Tuesday to leave.

Meanwhile, sources here said Kenya was in the process of replacing Tanzanian and Ugandan nationals working at airports, both countries have already replaced Kenyan nationals at their posts.

Announcing Tanzania's decision to expel all Kenyan workers yesterday, Transport and Communications Minister Alfred Tandau said the move was in retaliation against Kenya's "unilateral" decision which he said had "shocked" Tanzania. It was taken at short notice and without consultation, the Minister complained.

"The decision is not in the interests of the community," Mr. Tandau said.

He added that he had asked the Chairman of the EAC Communications Council, Major Mariani, to convene a meeting to discuss the Kenyan decision, but Kenya refused to attend.

He added: "A proper procedure must be followed. We cannot just make decisions without considering their repercussions on the community."

Now, Mr. Tandau said, "Kenyan nationals working in Tanzania will have to go to make room for our people."

Filler: It has been estimated that man shares the earth with about 3,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (3,000 quintillion or 3x10/33) other living things. Of these, more than 75 per cent are bacteria, namely, 2,200 quintillion.



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Comecon reaches watershed stage in use of joint development

PARIS, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Western economic experts believe the east European common market, Comecon, has reached a watershed stage in the programmed use of joint industrial resources and manpower.

The construction of giant industrial units in the Soviet Union has necessitated an influx of skilled workers and technicians that the growth can be handled only by an integrated planning system, the experts believe.

The need for economic integration is enshrined in Soviet State and party documents, particularly the "Essential Options for the Development of the Soviet National Economy" adopted at the recent 25th party Congress.

Another Soviet document "Formulation of Plans for the Development of the Economy", stresses the importance of Comecon participation in industrial programmes in the Soviet Union and of Soviet participation in projects in member nations of the eastern bloc's common market.

A \$ 13,500 million programme for joint ventures in the Comecon and Cuba, to be completed by 1980, has been drawn up, with the star project being the construction of what is being called "the longest gas-pipe-line in the world".

This pipe-line will run 2,750 kilometres from Orenburg, in western Siberia, right through to the Soviet western frontier, crossing such natural obstacles as the Volga and Don rivers.

The Red Star newspaper recently announced that the first 288 kilometres of the project, which is being carried out with help from all the members of Comecon, have been completed.

The industrial development programme also includes the construction of a chemical plant at Ust-Ilimsk capable of turning out 500,000 tonnes of cellulose a year.

Comecon participation, excluding the Soviet Union, total \$ 492 million.

Pentagon spends \$13m on vacation centres

WASHINGTON, April 17 (AFP). — The Pentagon spends almost \$13 million annually in subsidies for vacation centres for military personnel, according to an official report made public here yesterday by Senator William Proxmire (Democrat, Wisconsin).

The report, drawn up by the General Accounting Office, revealed that hundreds of soldiers were being employed at vacation centres as hotel bellboys, pinboys in bowling alleys, and ski-lift operators.

The report said that "the abuses, management inefficiencies, and just plain waste in these programmes should be brought to an end immediately."

By closing vacation centres in West Germany alone, the report said, some \$3 million could be saved in the budget devoted to United States defence expenditure there.

In the Philippines, the report said, some 8,000 Filipinos had joined military — only clubs and had access to tax-free goods.

The Pentagon allowed this as a "good will gesture," but it was in contradiction with U.S. air force rules and the law of the land, the report said.

lion while West Germany is also has a hand in the project.

Other projects include an asbestos plant, a high tension power line between Ukraine and Hungary and Comecon aid in increasing Cuba's nickel production to 130,000 tonnes a year.

Comecon's economic integration plan for the period 1976-80 calls for total trade between the partners of \$ 450,000 million, compared with \$300,000 million for the period 1971-75.

Japan extends new \$23m loan to Pakistan

TOKYO, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Japan and Pakistan today signed an agreement on a 7,000 million yen (about \$ 23 million) loan to help Pakistan finance economic development projects, the Foreign Ministry announced.

The loan, which is the thirteenth extended so far to Pakistan by Japan, is repayable over 25 years, including a seven-year grace period, at an annual interest rate of 3.5 per cent, the announcement said.

Japanese loans to Pakistan now total 154,700 million yen (\$ 515 million) including debt relief measures, the ministry said.

Canada urged to increase assistance to Third World

OTTAWA, April 17 (AFP). — Canada should assist the development of Third World countries by paying more for their raw materials, a parliamentary panel recommended in a report released here.

The report drawn up by the subcommittee on international development, said only a radical change in trade relations between industrial and developing countries would permit the latter to achieve a higher degree of economic development.

Canada should set an example by trying to influence multinational companies to adopt a stance more favourable to the Third World, the authors of the report said.

They said the two groups of countries should see to agree at next month's Nairobi session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on a renegotiation of prices for a number of basic commodities exported by developing countries.

The report also recommends increased access to the Canadian market for goods from Third World nations.

South Korea to build freighters for Kuwait

SEOUL, Apr. 17 (R). — A South Korean company for building and heavy industries will build freighters each worth about \$15 million for a Kuwaiti shipping company, Korean company officials said today.

A contract covering the 23,000-ton freighters was signed in Kuwait on April 16 the officials said. The ships would be delivered to Kuwait shipping company from late next year.



AFTERMATH. — Survival capsule is seen, after an oil rig capsized in the Gulf of Mexico Friday, being lifted by the Aircraft Carrier Lexington. Thirteen men who entered the capsule died when the incident took place. The men entered the capsule when the oil drilling platform they were on capsized. (AP wirephoto).

Alcohol drunk by Japanese fills a dozen 36-storey skyscrapers

TOKYO, Apr. 17 (AFP). — The alcohol drunk by the Japanese in 1975 would fill a dozen 36-storey skyscrapers, compared with only 11 the previous year.

This vivid statistic has been dreamed up by the National Tax Office.

Naturally the tax people are delighted: From alcoholic drinks alone they pocket over \$3,000 million of the \$9,000 million devoted by the Japanese to this noble cause.

In Japan there are plenty of drunks but few alcoholics — an organisation like "alcoholics anonymous" has no equivalent here — due to the fact that the Japanese cannot hold their drink.

A light diet of vegetables, fish and little fat is no way to prepare their bodies for large amounts of alcohol, and the face of a Japanese after three glasses of beer resembles the rising sun on the national flag.

Getting into the best college, the best company, drives a good number of Japanese into the nearest bar as soon as they leave the office.

Japanese law still considers drunkenness to be a mitigating factor since the guilty was not responsible for his actions on the other hand, drunken drivers are treated harshly.

Some people have said wrongly that the Japanese are not religious, but drink religiously. At the beginning, sake (rice wine) was "a nectar for the Gods" but nowadays there is no lack of occasions to taste it.

At this very moment, processions of drunks are weaving their way home after drinking & hinging under the blossoming cherry trees they go to admire in the parks. The same kind of celebration is in order for the first snow of the winter, weddings funerals (divorces are less certain) and in the office people either drink sake to celebrate promotions or to deplore the absence of same.

But sake is not what it used to be. One newspaper said that if the Samurais were resurrected they would be head a good number of the 5,000 distillers who produce annually 2.4 million kms of rice alcohol, often adulterated.

During the war, in fact, due to the shortage of rice they were allowed to add alcohol — and the habit stuck. They also add glucose, thus quadrupling production.

The excuse put forward for this behaviour is that a certain precise taste can be acquired, particularly

France plans export boost to OPEC countries to finance energy imports

PARIS, April 17, (AFP). — France will have to substantially boost sales to oil producing countries to offset its energy import bill and secure balanced foreign payments by 1980, in the view of a panel of leading economists and industrialists here.

In a preparatory report for the 1978-80 French economic plan, a committee chaired by former EEC Commission Vice-President Robert Marjolin said France must strive for a trade surplus to ensure balance on current account since "invisible" trade should remain in deficit.

Even if efforts to reduce imports were successful, "it will remain necessary to export more in order to meet the energy

(import) deficit," the report said. The committee reached two main conclusions from an analysis of foreign trade prospects over the next five years.

Japan leads world production of digital watches

TOKYO, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Japan is expected to produce 7.5 million electronic digital watches of the crystal oscillation type this year, more than three times the 2.4 million watches produced last year, the Japan Watch and Clock Inspection Institute said today.

The institute said that Japanese watches of this type did not attract much interest from buyers at first, but with the growing recognition of the accuracy of these watches, large orders have been placed with Japanese makers over the last few months.

More significantly, Swiss makers who have lagged behind Japanese and American makers in developing this type of watch have made inquiries with Japanese makers concerning the mechanism of these watches, the institute said.

Meanwhile, Mr Yamada, President of Citizen Watch Co. of Tokyo, said digital watches would be the most popular in the future.

In the next 10 years, almost all the most expensive half the medium-priced and about 30 per cent of the cheapest watches will be digital watches of the crystal oscillation type, he said.

U.S. car sales continue to rise

DETROIT, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Car sales in the United States continued to rise in the period April 1-10 with a total of 216,701 units during that time, industry figures have revealed.

The sales represented a healthy 33 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year, when only 163,190 vehicles were sold.

Car sales since the first of the year are up by 33 per cent over the same period last year, at 2,270,620 units as against the 1,684,979 recorded in 1975.

Industry experts point out that sales in early April have come primarily in the medium and large sized vehicles — fact that confirms the disaffection of the American motoring public for small cars.

Chinese-Indian diplomatic move seen as very significant

PEKING, Apr. 17 (AFP). — The decision by China and India to restore normal diplomatic relations after a 14-year gap is a first step toward normalising relations in general between the two countries and a new diplomatic victory for China against the Soviet Union, it is felt in diplomatic circles here.

The move is considered as an event of very great importance for the whole of political life in Asia, given the size of the countries concerned, the most populous countries in the world and the giants of Asia whose drawing together will be a new stabilising factor for the region.

The resumption of full diplomatic relation between the two countries, both Third-World leaders, has come as a further blow to the Soviet Union after the recent stepping-up of Sino-Egyptian ties following Egypt's decision to abrogate its friendship treaty with the USSR, it was noted.

The gesture of independence from Moscow by India, which had been considered by Chinese leaders as a "vassal" of the Soviet Union was certainly appreciated by Peking.

India has been attacked many times by Chinese leaders and the official press, particularly the communist party newspaper the People's daily, for its "expansionist aims" concerning the sub-continent. Indian Premier Indira Gandhi was accused of having placed her country "within the bosom of the Soviet revisionist social imperialism."

While the process of normalisation was already underway — the Indian proposal was made in January, according to a well-informed source here today — the Chinese press again criticized India on two occasions, but in relatively moderate language, during the past few weeks.

The criticisms were over India's refusal to supply military spare parts to Egypt, whose relations with the Soviet Union are very

cool, and India's withholding of water from the River Ganges from Bangladesh.

In the past, China felt hemmed in over most of its vast borders by the Soviet Union or pro-Moscow nations such as outer Mongolia, India and North Vietnam. The Indian reaffirmation of non-alignment will certainly help to ally China's fears.

This major decision taken by China shows that the country's diplomacy has not been paralysed or affected by the death of Prime Minister Chou En-lai and the political storm that followed it, nor by the riots last week on Peking's Tien An Men square and the purge of first Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping.

Nonetheless, if the decision constitutes a big first step towards normalising Sino-Indian ties, it is still just a first step and many more will be needed before the two countries' relations really become much better.

The presence of an ambassador in each of the two capitals is not necessarily a determinate factor, as can be seen from the present state or relations between China and the Soviet Union which are at the height of a war of words if not of a "cold war."

The main problem with India, that of the border, which brought war between the two countries in 1962, will not be solved quickly according to observers here.

The last major incident between China and India occurred last Oct. 21. India claimed Chinese soldiers had crossed the border and killed four Indian troops, but China said New Delhi had been responsible for the incident.

At the time, the moderation of the Chinese report and the evident desire by the two countries not to blow up the incident out of proportion were interpreted as a favourable omen for future relations.

At that time, Peking said in an official statement: "In order to

avoid frontier conflicts and to assure peace on the frontier, the Chinese government invariably believes that the status quo must be maintained while waiting for settlement of the frontier question."

While the two countries continue waiting for this hypothetical settlement, Chinese and Indian forces are still facing each other at many points along the 4,000km border.

Observers here do not expect Peking ever to approve of India's annexation of the tiny Himalayan Kingdom of Sikkim, an act that China denounced in violent terms last year. China also remains a great friend of Pakistan and will continue to support that country's position on Kashmir.

Another problem remaining to be solved is that of Chinese aid to Naga and Mizo rebels in north-east India. The Indian government has regularly accused the Chinese communists of supporting a rebellion that started in 1953.

However, the fact is that a wish expressed by Chairman Mao to the Indian Charge d'Affaires here in 1970 has already come partly true. Chairman Mao said that one day, it was absolutely necessary that the two great countries should restore normal relations.

Bahrain, S. Korea establish ties

SEOUL, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Bahrain today became the first Gulf Arab state to establish full diplomatic ties with South Korea, the Foreign Ministry here announced.

The relations between the two countries have achieved rapid progress in the last few years with brisk activity by the Korean construction industries which recently won a \$ 150-million dry dock contract in that country, it noted.

— "The share of the oil decoders in our exports has nearly doubled by 1976, while areas may show a peccant traction (although it will sink in absolute value)."

"A high proportion of the port-export surplus require compensate for our energy chases and resume balance current account will have sought in trade with meat the organisation of petroleum countries."

The committee backed up findings by arguing that the United States in over each exports, which reach five share of western Europe per cent in 1973 against 1 cent only in 1980, was in fall off in the next several

OPEC, on the other hand, growth market. Imports were ly to grow "vigorously" and ld "exceed by 1980 a level that of 1974 in volume the report said, it stress it was impossible to make precise estimates because, certainties on many points.

However, the panel thought OPEC's share in French which was seven per cent might "perhaps double" by give "particular efforts" each exporters."

It noted that France's mance had until recently b latively poor. In 1974 "the States, Germany, Japan a ly... increased their share market while that of France slightly reduced", it said.

But it added that "some encouraging results" indicated possibility of an improv and said France must seek into the markets of some countries, such as indome Venezuela, where French gy now "virtually absent" At nt Algeria alone accounts per cent, or nearly half of total sales to the OPEC are

As for prospects of tra other areas the committee these points:

— Japan and the coun the Pacific area "seem to not negligible outlets" for goods, although it was ig to make any "serious" for

— Commercial demand non-oil developing countr uld suspend fairly close growth in the industrial

"If the payments crisis it faced which were to contin re would be reason for fe they might evolve toward l ed anarchy and renounca celerating their industriali

— Although trade with Europe might "expand i on the strength of recent"

the countries of this are coming up with a growing "and might seek to end it ing down trade with the v

France, Australia to boost economic cooperation

PARIS, April 17 (AFP). — la offers France a promise ket in both material and o goods, French Overseas T nister Raymond Barre said on his return from a five-it to Australia.

Mr. Barre said he had and useful exchanges of with Australian leaders on mic relations between the countries.

He added that Australia sed considerable mineral ces in which French firms invest.

"We will try over the months to begin contacts b French and Australian fin bling us to extend our trv ities in the field of inv and exchanges," he said.

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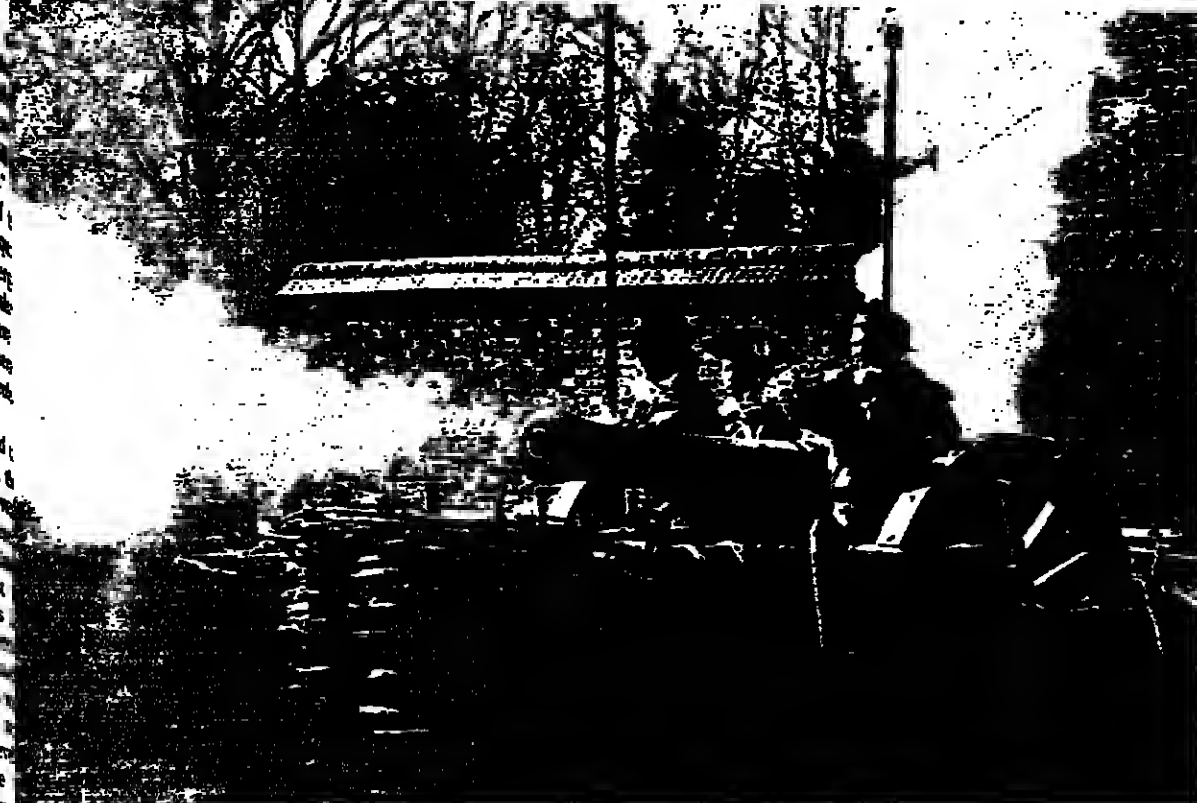
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Exchange Rate

Following are the office change rates at the close business day yesterday. Figures denote buying and prices in Jordanian fils.

U.S. dollar :	330.0
U.K. sterling :	614.0
French franc :	70.8
Swiss franc :	130.8
German mark :	130.6
Iraqi dinar :	925.0
Saudi Riyal :	93.1
Syrian pound :	83.3
Egyptian pound :	460.0
Lebanese pound :	128.2
U.A.R. dirham :	83.1

America goes all out to recreate its history (accurately)



Garrison cannoneers fire blast in exercise.

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA Fife and Drum Corps and the 90 Revolutionary, Redcoat, French, and Prussian "re-created" groups across the United States must make this bicentennial year: groups such as the Corps of Light Infantry, Fourth New York, Butler's Rangers, Hessian Fusilier Regiment von Dittfurth, and First Maryland.

George Washington never wore a fashionable, powdered wig either, but crowds today would not recognise him without one.

Such are the compromises over 90 Revolutionary, Redcoat, French, and Prussian "re-created" groups across the United States must make this bicentennial year: groups such as the Corps of Light Infantry, Fourth New York, Butler's Rangers, Hessian Fusilier Regiment von Dittfurth, and First Maryland.



Coach takes visitors down a street in restored Williamsburg.



Cobbler works on a leather rug.

Television	
Channel 3 & 6:	Channel 6:
6.00 Quran	7.30 News in Hebrew
6.20 Cartoons	7.45 Varieties
6.40 Six million dollar man	8.30 Inspector Briggs
8.00 News in Arabic	9.00 Men and machine
Channel 3:	9.10 The explorers
7.30 People's opinions	10.00 News in English
8.30 Arabic series	10.15 Hawaii 5-0 (on both channels)
9.15 Wrestling	

Amman Airport	
Departures:	Arrivals:
6.50 Aqaba	8.25 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
8.00 Beirut (MEA)	8.30 Aqaba
8.30 Rome	11.00 Cairo (EA)
10.00 Cairo	11.15 Kuwait (KAC)
12.00 Cairo (E.A.)	13.35 Dubai, Doha (GA)
12.05 London (BOAC)	16.30 Cairo
12.15 Kuwait (KAC)	16.40 Paris
14.45 Doha, Dubai (GA)	16.55 London
18.45 Baghdad, Kuwait	17.20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt
19.00 Bahrain, Bangkok	17.55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
20.00 Jeddah	18.00 Rome
20.30 Phoenix	18.30 Beirut (MEA)

Radio	
(On 856 KHZ):	
7.00 Breakfast show	
7.30 News Bulletin	
7.45 Morning melodies	
8.00 Sign off	
8.45 Once upon a time	
9.00 Listeners choice	
12.00 Pop session (part I)	
13.00 News Summary	
13.03 Pop session (part II)	
14.00 News Bulletin	
14.10 Radio magazine	
14.30 Pop music U.S.A.	
15.00 Concert hour	
16.00 Old favourites	
16.30 Easy listening	
17.00 Pop session (part 3)	
18.00 News Summary	
18.05 Listeners choice	
18.30 Varieties	
19.00 News Bulletin	
19.10 News reports	
19.30 Sign off	



"George Washington" reviews troops.

There are 65 boys on the waiting list. "Americans only re-enact battles in which they came out on top," says drum-major and music-master John C. Moon, a Scot brought from the Queen's Guard in England to Williamsburg in 1972 to oversee the restored village's militia affairs.

Dozens of re-enactments will take place during the bicentennial. Some, in states formed after the Revolution, will have nothing to do with the Revolution: A Lewis and Clark re-enactment in Ellis Grove, Illinois; the 1840 Whig convention to be re-created in Rochester, Missouri; and an Andrew



Silversmith stamps initial on bracelet.

Market Prices	
Apples (golden): 120-200	Onions (dry): 120-150
Apples (starken): 200-250	Potatoes (imported): 90-120
Apples (double-red): 240-280	Potatoes (local): 80-100
Bananas: 150-190	Peas: 120-170
Bell pepper: 200-300	Spinach: 60-90
Cabbage: 30-50	Tangerines: 70-100
Cauliflower: 80-120	Tomatoes: 80-140
Carrots (yellow): 50-70	
Cucumbers (small): 160-200	
Cucumbers (large): 80-120	
Eggplant (small): 100-150	
Grape leaves: 220-300	
Grape fruit: 60-80	
Green beans: 160-220	
Garlic (green): 50-80	
Hot pepper: 200-300	
Lemon: 70-100	
Lettuce (large): 70-100	
Lettuce (small): 50-80	
Lettuce (large): 60-80	
Horse beans (regular): 50-70	
Horse beans (large size): 80-100	
Marrow (small): 100-140	
Marrow (large): 50-80	
Orange: 70-110	
Onions (green): 100-160	

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Rifleman in guardhouse dusts off tri-cornered hat.

much debated—how true to life was the famous Emanuel Lautze painting of the crossing? Did General Washington carry a Betsy Ross flag? Was he standing up in the boat?



A face out of Williamsburg's past.

Tonight's TV Features

HAWAII 5-0 LEGACY OF TERROR The son of a Japanese war veteran, searches for hidden gold stolen by his father after Pearl Harbour. McGarrett stalks him.
SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN THE BIONIC BADGE Steve Austin is entrusted to expose international gang stealing nuclear secrets.
THE TOP SECRET LIFE OF INSPECTOR BRIGGS THE K.G.B. Briggs and his men, amidst laughs, try to catch an espionage network operating in Britain.
THE EXPLORERS HENRY MORTON STANLEY The famous explorer completes the work unfinished by the lamented death of Dr. Livingstone and tries to solve the remaining problems of the geography of Central Africa.

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Some Cubans expected to leave Angola; but where they go, nobody really knows

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP). — A limited Cuban pullout from Angola is expected over the next few weeks.

Various intelligence sources here and elsewhere in the hemisphere say that several thousand of Cuba's estimated 12,000 to 13,000 soldiers in Angola will be brought home.

But these same sources indicate that a sizeable contingent will remain for some time.

There is considerable uncertainty here over just how and where the remaining Cubans will serve—either in Angola or elsewhere.

It is presumed that many already are being used in the political indoctrination and training of Angolans in the wake of the success of the Cuban-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in recent fighting.

Some of the remaining Cubans have been joined by their wives, although South African rumors last month that Cuban families had arrived in Angola generally are discounted. Wives, yes, say Washington sources, but families with children, no.

Moreover, the wives who have gone are thought to be political activists and operatives. It therefore is not a case of simply sending wives to join husbands. It also is thought that the actual number of Cuban wives in Angola is relatively small.

Meanwhile, it is understood that 500 Cuban soldiers are in Marxist-ruled Somalia, on the horn of Africa.

This puts them in a position to assist insurgents currently seeking to wrest control of the French enclave of the Territory of the Afars and Issas and the port of

Djibouti at the southern end of the Red Sea—a move that would give the insurgents control of Red Sea entry and threaten access to the Israeli port of Elath at the upper end of the Gulf of Aqaba.

The Cubans in Somalia apparently have joined Soviet advisers already in that African land. Some of the Cubans may well be training Somali pilots and missile technicians.

Whether any of these Cubans were in Angola is not clear, but it is thought lately that the seasoned Cuban soldiers from Angola will be sent elsewhere in Africa and the Middle East.

Intelligence estimates here suggest that 2,000 Cubans are stationed in nearly a dozen countries in Africa and the Middle East—in addition to the many thousands remaining in Angola.

There continues to be a good deal of debate over the origin of Cuba's Angola involvement. Some intelligence analysts are convinced that Cuba acted under direct supervision of the Soviet Union and that any future movement of Cubans in Africa will be keyed to Soviet directives.

Another school of thought holds that the Angolan effort was a Cuban initiative. This view more closely corresponds to Cuba's own explanation of its support of the MPLA.

Although Soviet planes and pilots were used to ferry the Cubans to Angola and although Soviet military equipment and weaponry were used by the Cubans, it is argued that the Angola involvement fits into Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro's desire to support Third World movements.

Moreover, Angola with its Portuguese background and language was closer to Cuba's Spanish heritage than many other African lands.

Thai parties agree to form coalition government

BANGKOK, Apr. 17 (APF) — Four leading Thai political parties today signed a joint communique declaring their decision to form a coalition government.

The communique was signed at Parliament House by leaders of the Democrat, Thai National, Social Justice and Social Nationalist parties which together command a total of 206 seats in the new 279-seat house of representatives chosen in general elections two weeks ago.

The four parties pledged in the communique to solve the nation's basic problems such as poverty and corruption and to preserve law and order, national security and sovereignty.

The Democrat Party of Prince Seni Pramoi, which topped the poll by winning 114 seats in the lower house, will be "the core" of the new coalition which will uphold the policies of all four parties as guidelines in governing the country," the communique said.

Democrat deputy leader Pichai Ratakul told newsmen after the communique was signed that all four parties had completed negotiations on the composition of the new cabinet which he expected to be announced by next Thursday or Friday.

Interview with Ambassador Sharaf

[Continued from page 1] Much of its support as a result of its intransigence and militarism, and because it has been unwilling to present any alternative to its present policy of indefinite occupation to the rest of the world.

On different levels, Israel has been isolated and is on the defensive within the U.N.

First, on the level of the peace-making efforts, Israel has proven completely intransigent.

Second, on the level of its occupation policies, it has been proven to be in violation of the principles of human rights and of international law.

Third, on the question of Palestinian rights, Israel's approach has been completely bankrupt and unacceptable to the international community.

Fourth, finally, on a more philosophical level, the Zionist ideology was fundamentally questioned during the last session of the U.N. General Assembly, and was shown to be essentially racist; while some countries were still unable to



SHOOTING FOR THE MOON? — Aston Villa's Chris Nicholl (foreground) and West Ham's Tommy Taylor get entangled while in pursuit of the ball during the English First Division football match at London's Upton Park Stadium Saturday. (AP wirephoto).

U.K. football roundup Norwich City defeats Queen's Park Rangers

LONDON, April 17 (Agencies). — Norwich City Football Club set the cat among the English First Division leading pigeons today by inflicting on Queen's Park Rangers their first defeat in 13 matches.

Liverpool, defeating Stoke City, took over top spot in the First Division. Norwich, known as "giant-killers" after successes over challengers Liverpool and Leeds United this season, beat the leaders 3-2, at Carrow Road, Norwich.

Rangers' defeat, which ended a spell in which they dropped only one point in 22 successive matches, has thrown the championship race wide open.

At the same time second-placed Liverpool were entertaining Stoke City in a "see-saw" thriller at Anfield. The "Merseysiders" eventually won 5-3 and their two points enabled them to displace Rangers

at the top of the table with a one-point lead.

With Manchester United beating Everton 2-1 at Old Trafford, they kept alive their hopes of the "double" of league and cup. Although they are three points behind Liverpool, they have two games in hand.

So all is set for an exciting end to the season with Rangers and Liverpool with only two matches left while United have four.

There was also a change of leadership in the Second Division. With top club Bristol City resting today, Sunderland took over the lead thanks to a fine 4-1 victory at Hull.

In the Third Division, Hereford City made sure of promotion.

3 mystery bombs rock Paris

PARIS, April 17 (AFP). — Three bomb blasts in Paris in the past 48 hours, and the discovery of two other explosive devices near here that were defused before they could explode, left investigators puzzled today.

So far, no political group has claimed responsibility for any of the bombs, which were left near a number of potential guerrilla targets.

Thursday a bomb destroyed part of a building — near the Paris Stock Market — containing the offices of the management backed French Labour Federation (CFT).

The same night, a bomb made up of 36 sticks of dynamite was discovered shortly before it was set to explode by a cleaning woman at the central court building in Versailles, Southwest of Paris.

A second explosive device of the same type was discovered yesterday afternoon hidden in a bush a few metres away from another

court building in Bobigny east of the capital.

A policeman said the its timing device was set to explode as the bomb was de-

Shortly after midnight two more blasts simultaneously rocked the elegant 16th arrondissement of Paris.

The first produced a destroyed five floors of building near the Champs-Élysées not far from the Israeli embassy.

The second started a fire in an apartment building in quiet residential square Auteuil Racetrack and Boulogne. Police said the Syrian embassy, 1 off the square, might have been a target.

The last such explosion in Paris on March 5, was made up of dynamite much of the apartment building's former interior Raymond Marcellin in people were slightly injured.

Djibouti's Ali Aref defeats censure motion

DJIBOUTI, Apr. 17 (AFP). — An opposition censure motion accusing Djibouti Prime Minister Ali Aref of a policy of "ethnic division" was defeated here today at the end of a lively two-day debate.

The motion, sponsored by the 16-strong opposition group led by Senator Barkat Gourad Hamadou, had called for a coalition government for the TFAI (French Territory of Afars and Issas).

But Mr. Aref accused his opponents in the 40-member assembly of political manoeuvres and said the opposition African People's Independence League (LIPA) had published ultimatums reflecting the (annexation) demands of Mogadishu (Somalia).

Mr. Aref, in turn, was criticised for his close contacts with Ethiopia.

His plans to lead the territory to independence in close association with France were also criticised as "neo-colonial." Senator Gourad Hamadou asked Mr. Aref: "Where is France leading us through you? What interests are in TFAI?"

Nkomo visits London next

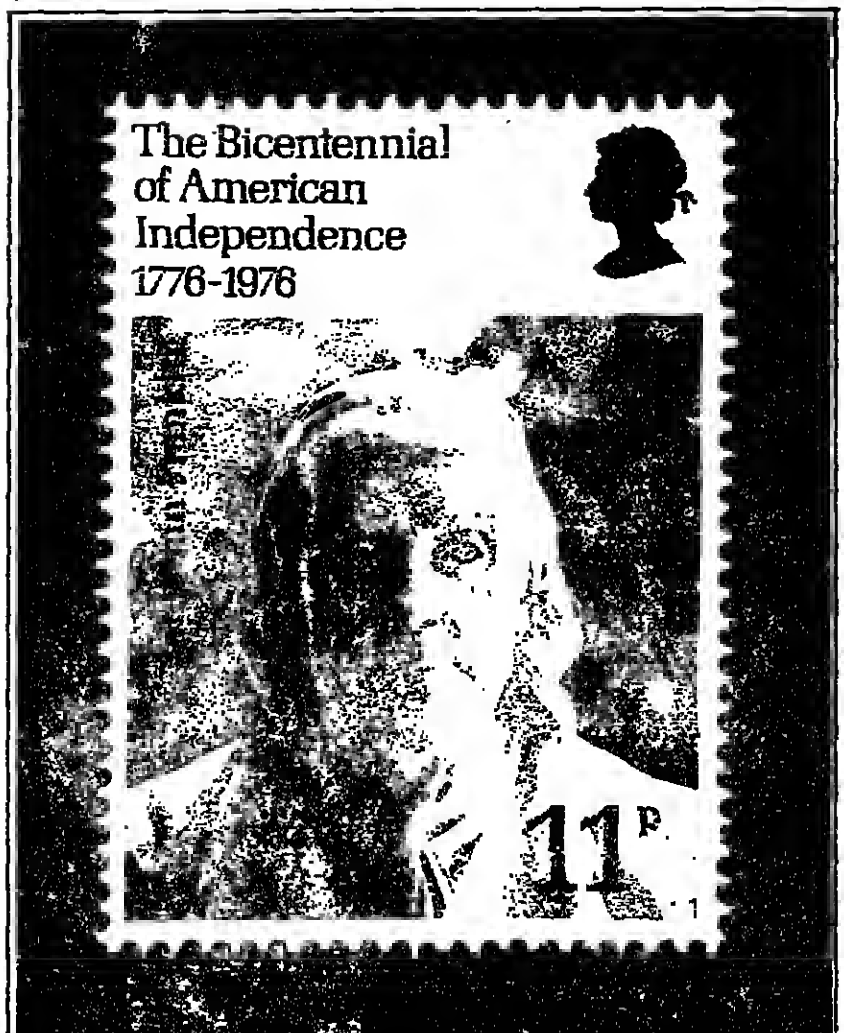
LONDON, Apr. 17. (AP) — Zesian nationalist leader Nkomo will visit London for talks with British officials today.

Mr. Nkomo, leader of a desian-based faction of the National Council of the British government, is expected to follow London for fresh talks officials said.

He is expected to follow latest developments following the collapse of institutional talks with regime.

Sources here said was now facing opposition his own cabinet and Russia Front Party, following ported plan to bring his administration.

Britain's position on the issue was unchanged — Afri rule within a transitional period of two years said.



STAMP MARKS BICENTENNIAL. — This new stamp will be issued by the British Post Office on 2 June to mark the 200th Anniversary of American Independence. The stamp features statesman-philosopher Benjamin Franklin (1706-90) and costs 11 pence — the airmail postage rate from Britain to the USA. Philip Sharland has based the stamp on a photograph of the bust of Franklin by Jean-Jacques Caffieri which is kept in the Benjamin Franklin Room at the Royal Society of Arts in London.

Flareup in W.Bank Indonesia proposes compensation scheme with Japan

[Continued from page 1] missed not to pass through any Arab villages. But the march, an annual demonstration which last year passed without incident, could touch off Arab protests this time following the recent unrest, observers believe.

Officials in Ramallah told Reuters today: "The people here are very angry about this march, particularly at this time. It could result in more demonstrations against Israeli occupation."

The Arabic-language Al Quds newspaper attacked the march in its main editorial today.

There have been protests within Israel, too, at the march, which is seen by moderates as an unnecessary provocation at present. In their advertisement for support, march organisers asked Israelis with firearms to bring them along.

JAKARTA, Apr. 17, (AFP). — Indonesia proposed Friday a compensation scheme to protect its trade against fluctuations of exports to Japan.

The proposal was explained by the Director General for Overseas Trade, Suhadi Mangkusuwondo, to a visiting trade delegation from Japan led by Foreign Ministry adviser Hibeshi Kagawa.

Under the proposal, Japan would give financial compensation when its imports from Indonesia goes beyond a certain pre-agreed level.

The money would be returned whenever the imports exceeded the level.

NOTICE

Mr. Antoine Soussa has returned from Beirut where he attended the funeral of his father, the late MICHEL Y. SOUSSA and will accept condolences from relatives and friends at his house at Fifth Circle, Jabal Amman, on April 18, 19 and 20.

ROBERT BOLT

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